Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for using a network of set-top boxes, comprising:

connecting at least a first and a second set-top box in a network;

making ~~one or more resources~~ a first storage device included in ~~each of~~ said first set-top box ~~and second set-top boxes~~ available to said network;

making a second storage device included in said second set-top box available to said network;

receiving a command in said first set-top box which requires ~~some or all of said resources~~ at least one of said first and second storage devices; and

using ~~said resources in~~ said at least one of said first [[or]] and said second ~~set-top box~~ storage devices in response to receiving.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1 wherein said first set-top box uses ~~said resources in~~ said first storage device ~~set-top box~~ if available, and attempts to use ~~said resources in~~ said second storage device ~~set-top box~~ if not available.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1 wherein said first set-top box determines whether [[a]] said first storage device ~~of said storage devices in~~

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~~said first set-top box~~ or [[a]] <u>said</u> second storage device ~~of said storage devices in said second set-top box~~ has more space available and uses <u>the</u> one of said first [[or]] <u>and</u> second storage devices that has more space available.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] <u>1</u> wherein said command is for ~~scheduling~~ <u>recording</u> a show.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] <u>1</u> wherein said command is for transferring a show to one of said <u>first and second</u> storage devices.

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising:

examining said ~~resources~~ <u>first storage device</u> to determine if [[a]] <u>said</u> first storage device ~~in said first set-top box~~ has enough space available for said show;

transferring said show to said first storage device, if there is enough space available for said show;

examining said ~~resources~~ <u>second storage device</u> to determine if [[a]] <u>said</u> second storage device ~~of said storage devices in said second set-top~~ has sufficient space available, if enough space was not available on said first storage device; and

transferring said show to said second storage device, if there is sufficient space available for said show on said second storage device and not on said first storage device.

9.   (Currently Amended) A network of set-top boxes, comprising:

at least a first and a second set-top box connected in a network;

~~one or more resources~~ a first storage device included in ~~each of~~ said first ~~and second set-top boxes~~ set-top box;

a second storage device included in said second set-top box, wherein said first second storage devices are available to said network; and

a command received by said first set-top box which requires ~~one or more of said resources~~ at least one of said first and second storage devices to be used, wherein said first set-top box uses at least one of said ~~resources~~ first and second storage devices in response to receiving the command ~~in said first set-top box or said second set-top box~~.

10.   (Cancelled)

11.   (Currently Amended) The network of claim [[10]] 9 wherein said first set-top box uses ~~said resources in~~ said first storage device ~~set-top box~~ if available, and attempts to use ~~said resources in~~ said second storage device ~~set-top box~~ if said first storage device is not available.

12.   (Currently Amended) The network of claim [[10]] 9 wherein said first set-top box determines whether [[a]] said first storage device ~~of said storage devices in said first set-top box~~ or [[a]] said second storage device

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of said storage devices in said second set-top box has more space available and uses the one of said first [[or]] and second storage devices that has more space available.

13. (Currently Amended) The network of claim [[10]] 9 wherein said command is for scheduling recording a show.

14. (Currently Amended) The network of claim [[10]] 9 wherein said command is for transferring a show to one of said first and second storage devices.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A network of set-top boxes, comprising:

means for connecting at least a first and a second set-top box in a network;

means for sharing one or more resources a first storage device included in each of said first set-top box and second set-top boxes;

means for sharing a second storage device included in said second set-top box; and

means for receiving a command by said first set-top box which requires one or more of said resources at least one of said first and second storage devices to be used; and

means for responding where said first set-top box uses said resources of said at least one of said first [[or]] and second storage devices set-top boxes.

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17. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing a computer to use a network of set-top boxes, comprising,

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to connect at least a first and a second set-top box in a network;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to make ~~one or more resources~~ a first storage device included in ~~each of~~ said first ~~and second~~ set-top ~~boxes~~ box available to said network;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to make a second storage device included in said second set-top box available to said network;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to receive a command in said first set-top box which requires ~~some or all of said resources~~ at least one of said first and second storage devices; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to use ~~said resources in~~ said at least one of said first [[or]] and said second ~~set-top box~~ storage device in response to receiving the command.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim [[18]] 17 wherein said first set-top box uses ~~said resources in~~ said first storage device ~~set-top box~~ if available, and attempts to use ~~said resources in~~ said second storage device ~~set-top box~~ if said first storage device is not available.

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20.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim [[18]] 17 wherein said first set-top box determines whether [[a]] said first storage device ~~of said storage devices in said first set-top box~~ or [[a]] said second storage device ~~of said storage devices in said second set-top box~~ has more space available and uses the one of said first [[or]] and second storage devices that has more space available.

21.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim [[18]] 17 wherein said command is for ~~scheduling~~ recording a show.

22.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim [[18]] 17 wherein said command is for transferring a show to one of said first and second storage devices.

23.   (Cancelled)

24.   (Currently Amended) The computer program ~~product~~ method of claim 22 further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to examine said ~~resources~~ first storage device to determine if [[a]] said first storage device ~~in said first set-top box~~ has enough space available for said show;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to transfer said show to said first storage device, if there is enough space available for said show;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to examine said ~~resources~~ second storage device to determine if [[a]] said second storage device ~~in said second set-top~~ has enough space available, if enough space was not available on said first storage device; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to transfer said show to said second storage device, if there is enough space available for said show on said second storage device and not on said first storage device.

25-27.   (Cancelled)